



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

September 27, 2004

**JAMES EDWARD WHITTED CHARGED WITH  
POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE HEROIN**

Acting United States Attorney Anthony J. Jenkins announced today that on September 25, James Edward Whitted, age 58, was arrested on charges of possession with intent to distribute in excess of one (1) kilogram of heroin.

On September 25, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection inspection took place aboard the Adventure of the Seas cruise ship, which had just arrived in St. Thomas from St. Maarten, N.A., in a cabin occupied by passenger James Edward Whitted. Inspectors found approximately 5.9 kilograms of heroin inside the cabin. The government estimates that this quantity of heroin has a street value of approximately \$ 4 million. James Edward Whitted, who was present at the time of the search, was arrested. James Edward Whitted had his initial appearance before United States Magistrate Judge Geoffrey W. Barnard on September 27, 2004, and he was detained pending hearings scheduled to take place on September 29, 2004.

The maximum penalty for possession with intent to distribute in excess of one kilogram of heroin is life imprisonment, a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of \$4,000,000.

Acting United States Attorney Jenkins commended the work of United States

Customs and Border Protection, United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Drug Enforcement Administration in the investigation of this case.